Information Officer: Kathy Bushnell, 406-422-7164

Incident: East Fork Fire

Detected/Reported: August 22, 2012

Cause: Lightning

Origin: T16N, R10W, Section 36 on the Helena National Forest-Lincoln Ranger District

Incident Commander: Beau Macy

Approximate Size: 1,123 acres

Fire Update:

Due to the recent cooler temperatures and increased relative humidity levels, there was minimal growth on the East Fork Fire yesterday; however, there remains some fire activity with single and group tree torching and spotting. The fire continues to burn in contiguous sub-alpine fir—a fuel type that is known for prolific spotting—and dense, dead timber.

Over the last few days, firefighters worked to successfully suppress the spot fire that was located outside of the Wilderness boundary. That spot fire is cold and completely out.

Fire personnel will continue monitor the main East Fork Fire throughout the day, but for safety purposes there will be no direct attack on the fireline.

Closures: Below is a list of current trails closures due to the East Fork Fire activity:

- Arrastra/Porcupine Basin Trails #482 & #488: entire trail of both beginning in T15N R10W Section 25 & T15N R10W Section 23
- **Dry Creek/Meadow Cr Trail #483:** from the beginning in T15N R10W Section 17 to junction of Mainline Trail #481 in T16N R9W Section 8
- **Bugle Meadow Cut-across Trail #480:** entire trail beginning at Meadow Lake T16N R9W Sec. 18 and ending in T16N R10W Section 1
- **Sourdough Trail #427:** entire trail beginning in T16N R9W Section 8 at the junction of Mainline Trail #481

Fire danger level: High

More information: Visit Inciweb at www.inciweb.org or call Kathy Bushnell at 406-422-7164